

The Claims Defining the Invention are:

1. A magnetic tape comprising:
 - a pair of flexible strips being connected in a face to face relationship with one another and intermediate said connections defining a plurality of pockets; and
- 5 a plurality of magnets each being housed within respective of the pockets to permit movement of the magnets therein.
2. A magnetic tape as defined in claim 1 wherein the pair of flexible strips are directly bonded to one another.
3. A magnetic tape as defined in claim 2 wherein the pair of flexible strips are welded to one another.
- 10 4. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims wherein the flexible strips are constructed of a polymeric and substantially impervious material.
5. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims wherein the magnets are each disc-shaped.
- 15 6. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims wherein the magnets are rare earth magnets.
7. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims wherein the magnets are spaced longitudinally along the strips in one or more rows.
- 20 8. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims wherein each of the magnets within the tape is oriented such that the polarity of the magnets is uniform relative to respective of the pair of flexible strips.
9. A magnetic tape as defined in any one of the preceding claims comprising at least one means for carrying an article.
10. A method of fabricating a magnetic tape, said method comprising the steps of:

ART 34 AMDT

locating a plurality of magnets in spaced apart relationship between a pair of flexible strips;

connecting the pair of flexible strips in a face to face relationship with one another wherein a plurality of pockets are formed intermediate said connections, each of the magnets being housed within respective of the pockets which permit movement of the magnets therein.

- 5 11. A method as defined in claim 10 wherein the magnets are sequentially located between the pair of strips which are then connected to one another.
- 10 12. A method as defined in claim 10 wherein the magnets are in a series of batches located between the pair of strips which are then continuously connected to one another.
13. A method as defined in any one of claims 10 to 12 wherein the steps of connecting the pair of strips involves welding the strips to one another.
- 15 14. A method as defined in any one of claims 10 to 13 being a continuous or semi-continuous process for the production of a continuous length of the magnetic tape.
15. A packaging arrangement for magnets, said arrangement comprising:
 - a pair of flexible strips being connected in a face to face relationship with one another and intermediate said connections defining a plurality of pockets; and
 - 20 a plurality of magnets each being housed within respective of the pockets to permit movement of the magnets therein.
16. A packaging arrangement in the form of a magnetic tape as defined in any one of claims 2 to 8.
- 25 17. A packaging arrangement as defined in either of claims 15 or 16 wherein the interior of the pockets is coated with a substance that reduces rusting of the magnets.

ART 34 AMDT

18. A packaging arrangement as defined in either of claims 15 or 16 wherein the pockets are charged with a substance that reduces rusting of the magnets.

ART 34 AMDT

AMENDED SHEET
IPEA/AU